

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records:

BACKGROUND: From around 1945 to 1946, Navy ships were ordered to Port Discovery in Discovery Bay, WA, to await the unloading of ammunition after World War II. The ships arrived to Port Discovery in Discovery Bay around November 1945.

The specific ships were as follows:

Provo Victory (AK-228)

Las Vegas Victory (AK-229)

Manderson Victory (AK-230)

Bedford Victory (AK-231)

Mayfield Victory (AK-232)

Newcastle Victory (AK-233)

Bucyrus Victory (AK-234)

Red Oak Victory (AK-235)

Alamosa (AK-156)

Antigone (AGP-16)

Lassen (AE-3)

Mazama (AE-9)

Pyro (AE-1)

Shasta (AE-6)

Mt. Baker (AE-4)

Autauga (AK-160)

When in Discovery Bay, some or all of these ships dumped or discharged oils, sewage, and other noxious matter into the waters of Discovery Bay which polluted both the waters and the adjacent tide lands. Some of these noxious materials may have been ammunition carried by these ships.

Many, if not all, of these ships left Port Discovery at Discovery Bay in February 1946 and headed to Port Chicago in San Francisco, California, Bangor Naval Ammunition Depot, Bangor, Washington, or elsewhere.

This request seeks information related to these ships during this time period. Please note that while the incident occurred in 1945, this request seeks information, communications, and studies that may have occurred from that date to present.

Please provide:

1. Any cargo manifest, other ship manifest, or other document related to the inventory of the above named ships, or any other ship ordered to Discovery Bay for the dates described above, for the dates of November 1945 to February 1946, especially but not limited to ammunition.
2. Any other documents related to the cargo contained in the above referenced ships, or any other ship ordered to Discovery Bay for the dates described above, from November 1945 to March 1946, especially but not limited to ammunition.
3. Any documents related to the offloading of ammunition or any other cargo or tangible thing, including but not limited to sewage or oil, from the above referenced ships, or any other ship ordered to Discovery Bay for the dates described above, for the dates of November 1945 to March 1946.
4. Any documents relating to the offloading of inventory of the above referenced ships, or any other ship ordered to Discovery Bay for the dates described above, at ammunition depots or other places after the above referenced ships departed from Discovery Bay, including but not limited to Bangor Naval Ammunition Depot, Bangor, Washington and Port Chicago in California, from 1945 to 1950.

5. Please provide any and all studies, reports, field notes, correspondence (both internal and external, including but not limited to correspondence with the EPA or any Washington State governmental agency) regarding the disposal of ammunition or other material into Discovery Bay during the time period described above from 1945 to present.

6. Please provide any and all studies, reports, field notes, correspondence (both internal and external, including but not limited to correspondence with the EPA or any Washington State governmental agency) regarding Discovery Bay from 1945 to present.

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Tom Madsen

Upload documents directly:

https://www.muckrock.com/accounts/login?url_auth_token=AABRbCIP7_rZpwge9mtbOkLv_Gs%3A1iCFmE%3AJJejqQ7z3QIJ1-nOfufOojxJZ8w&next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.muckrock.com%2Faccounts%2Flogin%2F%3Fnext%3D%252Faccounts%252Fagency_login%252Fdonfoia-panavymil-17054%252Fnavy-discovery-bay-activities-1945-to-1946-80691%252F%253F